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S&P raises Aruba outlook to stable on growth prospect, reforms

ORANJESTAD – While big countries are struggling with their rating, Aruba knew how to face all the big challenges in its way. And now we received the good news that Standard & Poor's Ratings Services removed the prospect of any downgrades for Aruba any time soon, citing an improved view for economic growth and pension and health-care reforms.

In raising its outlook on Aruba to stable from negative, S&P said recent reforms to address shortfalls in Aruba's pension system and health-care agency should strengthen public finances



over the long term.

Though the government's debt burden has risen recently, S&P predicted the growth would be contained thanks to Valero Energy Corp.'s (VLO) decision to re-open its refinery in Aruba after an 18-month shutdown, as well as favorable growth prospects in the coming year and various fiscal measures.

Oil refining and storage had largely ceased to be a mainstay of Aruba's economy--which largely relies on tourism--in the last couple of years until Valero's move.

S&P currently rates Aruba at A-, which is four notches above junk territory.

It said the rating could fall if reform momentum stalls or economic growth unexpectedly declines, resulting in high fiscal deficits and a ris-

ing burden of government debt. On the other hand, the rating could rise if the fiscal and debt trajectory grow more favorable than expected, along with higher-than-expected GDP growth beyond next year and improving external liquidity to support confidence in foreign exchange.

Standard & Poor's (S&P) is a United States-based financial services company that publishes financial research and analysis on stocks and bonds. It is well known for its stock-market indices.

Photo shows Minister of Finance Mike de Meza congratulating Minister of Economic Affairs Michelle Hooijboer-Winklaar with Prime Minister Mike Eman looking on.

Activists expose cruelty at McDonald's egg supplier

CHICAGO (AFP) - Undercover animal rights activists exposed shocking cruelty to chickens at McDonald's egg supplier, prompting the fast food giant to cut ties to the US firm after the video was released yesterday.

"Unfortunately, much of the abuse we documented is not only standard, it's legal," said Nathan Runkle, director of Mercy for Animals.

There are no federal laws governing the treatment of poultry on US farms and most states have sweeping exemptions for farmed animals which allow for abuses to run rampant without prosecution, Runkle said.

The situation is not much better for cows and pigs -- which are at least supposed to be stunned before slaughter -- because of a lack of oversight, he added.

"We've done over a dozen investigations at factory farms from coast to coast," Runkle told AFP.

"What we have found is that every time we've sent an investigator into one of these facilities they've come out with shocking evidence of



abuse and neglect."

The latest video shows chicks having their beaks being burned off by a machine and then tossed into cages and barely identifiable corpses of chickens that were left to rot in cages.

It also showed unwanted chick left to die in plastic bags, chickens mangled by the bars of overcrowded cages, and a plant worker walking down the hall swinging a live chicken on a rope in a wide circle as it flaps its wings in distress.

"The behavior on tape is disturbing and completely unacceptable," McDonald's said in a statement.

"McDonald's wants to as-

sure our customers that we demand humane treatment of animals by our suppliers. We take this responsibility -- along with our customers' trust -- very seriously."

The fast-food giant said it has directed its supplier, Cargill, to stop sourcing McDonald eggs from Sparboe, which insists that the video depicts acts that are "totally unacceptable and completely at odds with our values."

The family-run egg company said it launched an internal investigation after learning of the video and has fired four workers who engaged in mistreatment of the chickens.

In a message posted on a dedicated website, owner Beth Sparboe Schnell said an independent auditor from Iowa State University confirmed the company is in "full compliance with our animal welfare policies."

She noted that Sparboe Farms was the first US egg producer to have its "science-based animal care production guideline" certified by the US Department of Agriculture.

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Pan Caribbean Partnership against HIV and AIDS 11th Annual General Meeting

NASSAU, The Bahamas -- The Pan Caribbean Partnership against HIV and AIDS (PAN-CAP) in collaboration with the German Technical Cooperation Agency (GIZ), EPOS Health Management (EPOS) and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) will host a Roundtable under the theme "How to Improve Access to HIV Services for Migrants in the Caribbean" at the 2011 Caribbean HIV and AIDS Conference (CHIV) in The Bahamas.

The roundtable meeting will take place tomorrow, November 20, and will feature a panel of HIV and migration experts.

Discussions will focus on legal, policy and economic aspects of migration and HIV in the Caribbean as well as community and social approaches to dealing with immigrants.

PANCAP is currently working in partnership with GIZ and EPOS in executing a technical assistance grant from the Federal Republic of Germany to enhance the accessibility and quality of HIV prevention, care and treatment services for migrant populations in the Caribbean. The name of the project is "Improving Access of Migrant Populations to HIV

Services in the Caribbean" and is in keeping with one of PAN-CAP's strategic objectives of providing universal access to migrant populations.

The project focuses on five pilot countries Antigua & Barbuda, Guyana, St Maarten, Suriname and Trinidad & Tobago and has four interlinking components which seek to: enhance the policy and legal frameworks governing access of migrant populations to HIV and AIDS services at regional and national level; identify and pilot effective financing mechanisms/models to secure the access of migrant populations to HIV services in the pilot countries; identify and strengthen organizations with the potential to represent the interests of migrant populations regionally and within the pilot countries, and ensuring their participation in relevant national and regional HIV policy planning bodies; and, enhance the number of public, private and non-governmental entities offering HIV services tailored to specific needs of male, female and adolescent stakeholders among migrant population groups, including the identification of evidence-based best practice approaches.

Last day for free classes on how to make custom-fitted sewing patterns



Explaining the Lutterloh Golden Rule system

For those who know their way around a sewing machine, Lutterloh System International representative Frank Lutterloh is on island offering a free course in the company's



First measure hips and bust at fullest point

unique system for custom fitting patterns their quick and easy way.

The Lutterloh "Golden Rule" System was devised by Frank's grandmother, Maria, in 1935, when she grew weary of clothes that did not fit her individual form. He has spent the last two day at the EPI school demonstrating how this remarkably simple procedure of adapting the company's sewing patterns to exactly fit your figure can be mastered in less than an hour.

Today is the last day of classes, which take place at

10:00 and 11:30 AM and 2:00 PM in the AU-2 at EPI. By simply taking a bust and hip measurement, one can then deploy the free measuring/calculator on their pamphlet and three patterns provided to make sewing patterns for a classic vest, short-sleeve blouse or Bermuda shorts.

Lutterloh offers online and through regional distributors a complete package with a tailor's curve and tool set, plus a diverse selection of 280 sewing patterns designed to work with the system, available in several languages, including Spanish. Additional supplements are available for men and children; there is a separate system for XL and XXL and quarterly editions are issued with new, trendy fashions.

Frank is part of a family that has been dedicated to women getting exactly what they want while exercising their creativity, by producing their own superbly fitted clothes. He is enthusiastic about his subject, and the



A tailor's curve helps to set up the armholes just right

classes are interesting, entertaining, and best of all-free! Today is the last chance to enjoy this opportunity to learn how to custom design your sewing patterns, so don't miss! You will find him in the AU-2 conference room adjacent to the auditoriums; entrance and



the pattern is now custom fit to the student's body

parking is through gate 9.

For more information on the system, visit their website: www.lutterloh.com.

By Rosalie Klein

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"Breaking Dawn" has a record opening on Aruba

Outside of the Aruba International Film Festival in June, little attention is paid to first run films coming to Aruba, with one consistent exception: the Twilight series. Since the first film started a worldwide mania, dividing giggling females from 6 to 60 into "Team Edward" or "Team Jacob," the coming of each new film in the series to the island has prompted a special opening night event, progressively filling more theaters with eager fans anxious to take in the latest chapter in the saga.

Thursday evening The Cinemas at Paseo Herencia shopping center filled two theaters to overflowing for the fourth in the series "Breaking Dawn," and the marriage of Bella and Edward-or was it to watch the honeymoon, and, FINALLY,



Team Edward vs. Team Jacob!!

the consummation of their love? One of the great successes of the films and their appeal to so many romantics was the ideal of eternally 17 year old vampire Edward

Cullen insisting on love and MARRIAGE, before; truly a dream man in these modern times.

In any case, fans of every stripe gave the film two



The Mirage show cast are Twihards

thumbs up and are quite ready for the final chapter, though all expressed a secret hope that author of the bestselling books, Stephanie Meyer, might bow to the wishes of her devoted fans and continue the story with a new edition. The films

do them justice, and the advantage of today's technology brings the fantasy to life beautifully; great production values and an engaging story will immerse viewers in the Twilight fantasy world.

by Rosalie Klein

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The luxury of leather

Aaron Jose Acosta is grand prize winner of the Tiara Air Aruba 5th anniversary contest

Aruba's home grown airline, Tiara Air Aruba, was proud to announce the winner of a very special competition begun last April, in celebration of their 5th anniversary of successful operation in the region. The contest was open to youth in various age groups, from five-years-old to nineteen + and youngsters from Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao were eligible to compete.

First place winners in each category received round-trip passage for two on Tiara Air to the destination of their choice. Participating schools were awarded \$100 coupons towards Tiara Air tickets; the number of coupons calculated at 2% of their school's student body, which they were encouraged to use as prizes during fundraisers or awards for scholastic achievement.

There were 5 age categories of competition, each with an increasing complex and age-appropriate assignment to complete. In the 13 to 16 year contest, entrants were required to write an essay about one of Tiara Air's destinations, depicting how the people make a living, their way of life and what they like and dislike about their country, with geographical and cultural descriptions. This could include not



Aaron Jose Acosta and Mom Sorina

only the three islands, but Venezuela and Colombia, which are also serviced by the airline.

The first prize winners on each island were then eligible by raffle to be declared the Grand Prize Winner with their choice among 3 prizes offered:

- 1) An Apprentice Scholarship for 2.5 years to learn the trade of Aviation Mechanic at Aviation Maintenance Technician School in Bonaire. OR:
- 2) A 20-week scholarship to earn a private pilot's license Pilot License at F.I.T. Aviation Flying School in Miami, Florida.
- 3) A complete Home

Theater System including 46-inch TV and 7.1 Channel 3D Blu-Ray 2 sets of 3D Glasses, the latest model laptop complete with printer, computer table and chair, and iPod, plus Tiara Air tickets for a family of four to the destination of their choice.

The Grand Prize Winner, 16-year-old Aaron Jose Acosta of Curacao was introduced to media during a celebratory party at the Talk of the Town Resort on Aruba this past Thursday evening, November 17. Aaron was joined by his



Tiara Air Aruba CEO Alejandro Muyale

proud mom, Sorina; it was announced the young man decided to realize his dream and invest in his future by selecting the 2nd prize of a scholarship at F.I.T. Aviation Flying School to earn his private pilot's license.

Tiara Air Aruba's CEO Alejandro Muyale was proud to introduce this determined young man to staff and guests; his choice embodies everything the quickly expanding

and highly successful airline considers a priority: encouraging island youth with drive and determination to pursue specialized training and exciting, rewarding careers in the air industry.

"Tiara Air Aruba wishes you the greatest success and an exciting career in aviation" Mr. Muyale told Aaron in closing.

By Rosalie Klein

Marriott Ocean Club members honored as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba



Recently, four loyal members of the Marriott Ocean Club were honored as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Denise Trezza have been coming to Aruba for 13 consecutive years but came to Aruba for the first time in 1980 on their honeymoon. Mr. Mark Silverstein and Mrs. Susan Makowsky have been coming to Aruba for 12 consecutive years but came to Aruba for the first time in 1978. Both couples say they love the Island very much. They have brought a lot of friends and families to Aruba during the years they have been coming. Aruba Tourism Authority, associate Ernest Giel presented the honorees with a certificate as a 'thank you' gesture for their love for our island. Also present during the ceremony was Mrs. Lillian Britten, Director of Rooms Operations of the Marriott Ocean Club.

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Tuesday night is Bon Bini Festival



ORANJESTAD -- The weekly Bon Bini Festival takes place this Tuesday night at the Fort Zoutman in Wilhelminastraat. Come mingle with the locals and enjoy a taste of Aruban culture.

Next week the festival will feature the traditional Aruba caha di orgel by Nos Cultura, folkloric music by Grupo Betico, dance performance by The Super Dancers, trio performance by Jacobs Family, poem declaimed by Samantha Trinidad, soloist Hilyann Croes and brass band TBS. The event will be hosted by Ryan Maduro.

During the festival there will be local food, sweets and traditional local arts and crafts on sale.

Arubus has regular busses from all hotels areas to Oranjestad Central Terminal, which is only a short walk from Fort Zoutman. Round trip bus fare is \$2.30. The festival is from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Entrance fee is \$3.

BMW introducing the BMW X3 xDrive35d

This Autumn, the BMW X3 model range was expanded with two new engines, one petrol and one diesel. Customers now have a choice between three petrol and three diesel engines.

The new BMW X3 xDrive20i will become the entry model of the X3 lineup and features a newly-developed 2.0-litre four cylinder engine with TwinPower Turbo technology.

The new BMW X3 xDrive35d, with its 3.0-litre six-cylinder diesel, joins the existing two diesel models, the X3 xDrive20d and xDrive30d. At the top of the X3 model range, it will offer an output of 313 hp (230 kW) and 465 pound-feet (630 Nm). This makes the new X3 xDrive35d the most powerful diesel variant in BMW's SAV model range.

The BMW TwinPower Turbo technology and the latest common-rail direct fuel injection give the new X3 not only impressive pulling power but also best-in-class fuel economy. When driving with low engine speeds, only the smaller turbocharger is active and an electronic controller automatically engages the larger turbo-charger during heavier throttle activities.

The new X3 comes with numerous standard EfficientDynamics options such as the Auto start-stop function and the brake energy regeneration. Options include the Dynamic-Damper Control, a Head-Up Display and in-car internet access (the latter only available in specific markets).



Amidst an impressive start on the international automotive markets, the new BMW X3 has rapidly become the shooting star in its segment. Winning the title of "Four-Wheel Drive Car of the Year 2011" awarded by the specialist car magazine "Auto Bild Allrad" is current proof of the new BMW X3's exceptionally high degree of popularity. The success in the reader survey conducted by Europe's biggest-selling specialist journal for four-wheel drive cars is already the BMW X3's second title victory this year. Only a few weeks ago, readers of the magazine "Off Road" voted the Sports Activity Vehicle "Off-road Vehicle of the Year 2011". With this double success, the new BMW X3 is quick in following the traces of its predecessor, which, in 2006 and 2007, was able to secure the readers' vote of both periodicals twice in succession.

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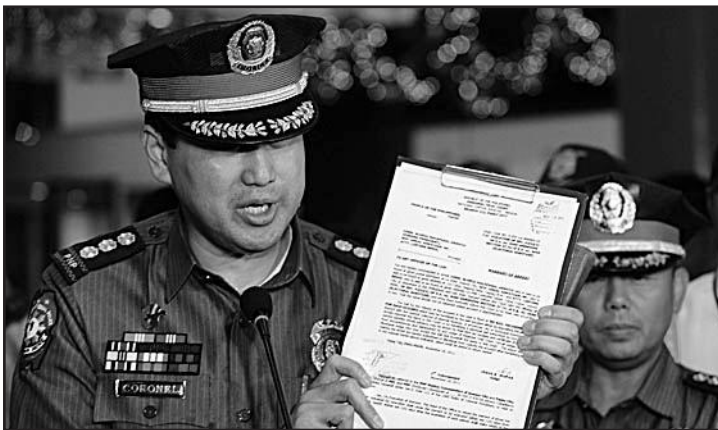
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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC



Manila: Senior Superintendent Joel Coronel shows the warrant of arrest a police team served on former Philippine President Gloria Arroyo at St. Luke's Medical Center in Manila, the Philippines, yesterday. Philippine police arrested ex-president Gloria Arroyo at her hospital bed yesterday on charges of conspiring with a feared warlord to rig an election, an offence that could lead to life in jail. (AFP PHOTO)

Herman Cain gets US Secret Service protection

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US presidential hopeful Herman Cain has become the first Republican to get Secret Service protection in the 2012 election campaign, officials said yesterday.

"At the request of Mr Cain's campaign, Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano agreed, after the consultation of the congressional advisory committee," said Secret Service spokesman Edwin Donovan, without elaborating on the measures.

Media reports said aides to Cain, whose campaign has recently been marred by accusations of sexual harassment, had asked for the protection after a series of incidents involving journalists covering his public meetings.

Cain has consistently been at or near the top of Republican opinion polls, along with former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney and former House speaker Newt Gingrich, but six others are in the race for the nomination.

Cain becomes the first person in the 2012 race, aside from President Barack Obama, to benefit from the federal government's special security service.

Obama was given Secret Service protection in May 2007, three months after he declared that he would run for president. His main Democratic rival in that race, Hillary Clinton, already had Secret Service protection on account of being former president Bill Clinton's wife.

Half of Niger villages face food shortage, UN says

GENEVA (AFP) - Almost six million people living in more than half of Niger's villages are facing a food and nutrition crisis, the UN warned yesterday.

"Approximately 6,900 villages out of 10,000 are in a vulnerable situation," said Elisabeth Byrs, spokeswoman for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

Niger's government, assisted by the UN and humanitarian organisations, will assess next month the exact number of people who are most vulnerable, Byrs said.

Last month Niger's government said the drought-hit country had harvested 500,000 tons less cereal than required, raising concerns of a food shortage crisis right across the Sahel.

The OCHA said that already by June the rate of child malnutrition had



A displaced family sit in front of their makeshift shelter

reached alarming levels in seven out of eight regions.

In western Tillabery, one of the worst drought-affected areas, acute malnutrition was affecting more than 13 percent of inhabitants.

In 2009 Niger suffered a 400,000-ton cereal shortfall, leading the following year to

one of the worst food crises in its history.

"Even if the food situation in Niger improved slightly in 2011 ... the effects of the major food and nutrition crisis in 2010 reduced rural populations' capacity to survive," OCHA said.

US welcomes IAEA condemning Iran nuclear program

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States yesterday welcomed the UN atomic watchdog's resolution of "deep and increasing concern" about Iran's nuclear activities and called for more pressure on Tehran to end them.

A White House statement said an International Atomic Energy Agency report explains "in graphic detail Iran's systematic efforts to develop a nuclear weapon," and that "the whole world now knows that Iran not only sought to hide its uranium enrichment program from the world for more than two decades."

The statement noted that President Barack Obama "has stated on multiple occasions that we are determined to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons" and that "a



nuclear armed Iran would represent a grave threat to regional peace and international security."

"This is why we have worked with others to build a broad international coalition to pressure and isolate the Iranian regime, including through an unprecedented sanctions regime," the statement added.

"The United States will

continue this pressure until Iran chooses to depart from its current path of international isolation, both in concert with our partners as well as unilaterally."

The resolution adopted in Vienna said it was "essential for Iran and the Agency to intensify their dialogue" and called on Tehran "to comply fully and without delay with its obligations under relevant resolutions of the UN Security Council."

But to assuage Chinese and Russian misgivings, the resolution has no timeframe for Iran to comply, calling instead for IAEA head Yukiya Amano to report to the board in March on Tehran's "implementation of this resolution."

Iran has denied it is developing nuclear weapons.

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Brazil's Rousseff backs dictatorship abuses probe

BRASILIA (AFP) - President Dilma Rousseff, a former Marxist guerrilla who was jailed and tortured during Brazil's military dictatorship, yesterday endorsed creation of a truth panel to probe human rights abuses during that dark period.

"It is fundamental that the population, above all the young and future generations know our past, how many people were jailed, tortured and died," she said.

"The truth about our past is fundamental so that these acts which tarnished our history do not happen again," she added.

The president also promulgated a law lifting indefinite secrecy for public records and mandating their publication after a maximum of 50 years, another historic step to investigate crimes committed during the military dictatorship (1964-1985).

"Secrecy will never again be used to hide abuse of human rights," Rousseff said to loud applause during an official ceremony.



Dilma Rousseff

official ceremony.

The truth commission is meant to investigate issues including politically motivated abductions in the Cold War era, rights abuses and murders over a time span longer than the dictatorship -- 1946-1988.

It does not however lift an amnesty for those who carried out the repression, in effect since 1979, and upheld last year by the Supreme Court.

Brazil has acknowledged 400 abductions and presumed deaths during the dictatorship.

Fear dictates Mexican drug cartel coverage

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Mexican journalists covering their nation's brutal drug violence live in constant fear of reprisals by traffickers, a condition which compromises their reporting on cartels, an award-winning Mexican editor said yesterday.

"Drug-trafficking dictates the editorial process," Javier Arturo Valdez, founder of weekly magazine Riodoce, which covers crime and corruption in the violent state of Sinaloa, said on a US visit.

"One expects to be threatened, and that reality is threatening. You have to know how to publish the information," he told a gathering at the Wilson Center in Washington, as he described how closely Mexican editors are monitoring each and every word that goes out.

Valdez was invited to address the violence in Mexico as the think-tank marks the 13th anniversary of the non-governmental Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ).

Riodoce is among the few



Mexican Army soldiers hold two suspects, arrested during an operation against drug smuggling and kidnapping gangs

news organizations in Mexico fully committed to coverage of crime, corruption and drug-trafficking, and the magazine stands out for its reporting, much of which is bylined, said Valdez, who won CPJ's 2011 International Press Freedom Award.

Crime reporters often hesitate to byline their stories, Valdez said, and "the level of reporting is mediocre."

Mexico has buckled under a surge in drug violence blamed for 45,000 deaths across the

country since 2006, when President Felipe Calderon began what became a nationwide military crackdown on organized crime. Rights groups have noted a rise in attacks on Mexican media outlets in recent years. Riodoce was target of an explosives attack in 2009.

At least eight reporters have been killed in Mexico in 2011, according to media watchdogs, some in apparent retaliation for reporting crime by drug cartels.

Haiti leader launches commission to restore army

PORT-AU-PRINCE (AFP) - Yesterday, Haitian President Michel Martelly moved towards restoring the Caribbean nation's army, disbanded in the mid-1990s after decades of coups and political sway.

Martelly, a former pop singer who was sworn in as

president in May vowing to end the instability and insecurity which has rocked his country, said he was setting up a commission to draw up a timetable for bringing back the army.

"The presidential order on nominating this commission will be published on Monday



Michel Martelly

and the commission will have 40 days to prepare a plan to rehabilitate the army," Martelly said.

He said the controversial plan should be presented by January 1, which marks the date of the country's independence.



BRAZIL On this November 12, 2011 NOAA / US Navy satellite image is seen a leakage from the Chevron's oil field at Campos, some 370 Km (230 miles) northeast of Rio de Janeiro. Brazilian authorities warned US energy giant Chevron that it faces severe punishment if it fails to completely seal an offshore well that has been seeping oil in waters off Rio de Janeiro state. Tuesday, Chevron said it had successfully sealed the ruptured offshore well. Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff has demanded a "rigorous investigation into the causes of the accident." Rio state's Environment Secretary Carlos Minc warned that the spill area was located on the route used by whales and dolphins. (AFP PHOTO / NOAA / US Navy)

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Health & Living

Vaccines for the flu season 2011/2012 have arrived

Vaccines for the the flu season 2011/2012 have arrived.

What is the flu?

The flu is a contagious infection of the nose, throat, and lungs caused by the influenza virus.

Less often, it is spread when you touch a surface such as a faucet handle or phone that has the virus on it, and then touch your own mouth, nose, or eyes.

Because the flu spreads through the air and is very contagious, it often strikes a community all at once, causing an epidemic illness.

The flu usually begins abruptly, with a fever between 102 and 106 °F. (An adult typically has a lower fever than a child.) The fever usually lasts for a day or two, but can last 5 days.

These symptoms (except the cough) usually disappear within 4 - 7 days, but the tiredness persists for 1-2 weeks.

How to combat the flu?

Vaccination is the best protection against contracting the flu.

Everyone 6 months of age and older should get vaccinated against the flu.

Antiviral drugs are prescription medicines (pills, liquid or an inhaler) that can be used for prevention or treatment of flu viruses.

If you get sick, antiviral drugs can make your illness milder and make you feel better faster.

The antiviral drugs work only as a prevention, if you are sick already, it will now cure your flu.

Flu is not the cold

Commonly, when someone is not feeling good, people have the tendency to say that he has the flu, but not every "flu" is caused by the flu virus.

Cold, stomach flu and other kinds of malaise are caused by different other viruses that cannot be prevented by taking the flu vaccination.

A different type of flu

every year.

In countries with winter seasons, every year there is a high percentage of people getting the flu.

Our island is frequented by tourists who bring over the flu and expose our community to the virus.

The flu virus evolves rapidly and new strains quickly replace the older ones, this is why everyone must vaccinate against the flu every year.

Does Vaccination against the flu help increase resistance?

There are different strains of the flu worldwide that are being investigated, anticipating which one will strike the present year.

Based on that information a vaccine is then made every year.

Each seasonal flu vaccine contains three dead flu viruses.

When injected with the vaccine the body reacts to these viruses by producing anti bodies.

When the flu virus attacks the body, these antibodies will counteract and eliminate the virus.

The vaccine cannot cause the flu as it consists of dead viruses.

It takes 1-2 weeks for the body to create anti bodies; in those 2 weeks time a person can get the flu.

Does the flu vaccine help prevent the flu?

Yes, the flu vaccine is for 89% effective.

The 11% combats the flu if a person already has it by diminishing the symptoms.

The vaccine also minimizes the possibilities for complications caused by the flu.

Remember, the vaccine does not prevent the cold or other kind of viruses.

The effectiveness of the vaccine is clinically proven

Is the flu vaccine safe?

Yes, it is safe, because it consists of dead viruses that

induce the human body the produce anti bodies against the flu.

The vaccine is rather well tolerated; mostly it causes a little discomfort on the skin when injected.

This discomfort will disappear within 24 hours.

Who are at risk for the flu?

Everyone can get the flu, although there are certain people who are at higher risk if they get the flu; it is advisable for them to take the vaccine. They are: heart patients, patients with lung problems (like asthma, bronchitis, etc.) diabetics, patients with kidney problems and persons with a low immunity system.

They must consult their doctor about taking the flu vaccine.

When is a person not at risk for the flu?

If a person is not a heart patient, has problems with lung or kidney, or has a low immunity system, there is no need for a flu vaccine.

It is advisable though to take the vaccine, if, for example, a person is 65 years old, cannot miss work for a week, or is constantly in contact with many people, then, it is advisable to consult with your house doctor.

Can children be vaccinated against the flu?

Yes, all children older than 6 months can be vaccinated against the flu. But check first with a pediatrician.

In the U.S.A., authorities advice everyone who is at risk, to take the vaccine as soon as possible.

In the Netherlands, the house doctors automatically call all patients older than 65 years to get a vaccine.

In the Netherlands only, an average of 2,000 people die every year of the flu, while 20 to 30,000 are hospitalized.

On Aruba, the flu vaccine is available, through a doctor's prescription, at all drug-stores.

Births by young US moms reach historic low

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Birth rates by teenage and young adult mothers in the United States fell to historic lows last year, while birth rates among women over 40 hit a 30-year high, according to data released Thursday.

The birth rate among teens age 15-19 dropped nine percent in 2010 compared to a year earlier, the largest single year dip since 1946-47, the US Department of Health and Human Services said in its National Vital Statistics Report.

At 34.3 births per 1,000 among teens, that marks "a record low for the nation," said the report.

Teenage birth rates have been falling steadily since 1991, and are now 44 percent lower than they were 20 years ago.

Tough economic times, combined with some popular reality television shows that have spotlighted the lives of

teenage mothers, have also helped bring down the birth rates.

Women 20 to 24 years old also saw a drop of six percent in birth rate compared to 2009, with 2010's rate of 90 per births per 1,000 making it the "lowest level ever reported for the United States."

Meanwhile, the rate of births among women age 40-44 rose two percent from 2009 to 2010, reaching 10.2 births per 1,000 women, the highest since 1967.

That age group was the only one to see an increase, as part of a trend in which more women in the United States are postponing child-bearing until after they have built their careers.

Overall births among women of all races in the United States declined in 2010, and the total number of US births was just over four million last year, dropping three percent from 2009.

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French team invents tough, reheatable plastic



WASHINGTON (AFP) - French researchers have designed a polymer that can be heated and reshaped, and yet remains as strong as well-known industrial plastics, according to a study Thursday in the US journal Science.

The material is unusual because it "can be repeatedly processed at high temperatures... it can even be ground up and recycled into a new shape while retaining the mechanical properties of the original material," said the study.

Complex shapes "can be easily made without resort to a mold" and since the material will not melt, precision heat tools are not necessary and a hot air blower is sufficient, it added.

Once further developed, the material could find uses in aircraft and automobile parts, construction, electronics and

sports equipment.

Until now, synthetic polymers have been divided into two classes -- thermoplastics that can be melted and remolded, and thermosets that are processed into liquid, chemically infused and molded into a permanent shape.

The latter are the strongest and most stable, particularly at high temperatures, and are often used in aircraft. But they cannot be broken down again and reshaped.

The material created by Damien Montarnal and colleagues at the Ecole Supérieure de Physique et Chimie Industrielles in Paris, is as strong as a thermoset but can be repeatedly manipulated into different forms.

"It can even be ground up and recycled into a new shape while retaining the mechanical properties of the original material," said the study.

The material has not yet reached mass production, but researchers said the process for making it could be "readily scaled up for applications and generalized to other chemistries."

Sci-Tech

Climate change key driver of extreme weather: UN



KAMALA (AFP) - Man-made climate change has already boosted heatwaves and flood-provoking rainfall and is likely to contribute to future natural disasters, according to a report by UN scientists unveiled Friday.

But the toll from these extreme weather events will depend as much on the measures taken to protect populations and property as the violence of Nature's outbursts, it warned.

The report, released 10 days before climate talks in Durban, South Africa, is the UN's first comprehensive review of global warming's impact on weather extremes and how best to manage them.

"We can actually attribute the increase of hot days in the past few years to an increase

in greenhouse gases," said Thomas Stocker, co-chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which approved a summary of the report at a meeting in the Ugandan capital, Kampala.

"And it is virtually certain that increases in the frequency and magnitude of warm daily temperature extremes, and decreases in cold extremes, will occur in the 21st century," he said at a press conference.

"Heavy precipitation will become more frequent in many regions of the world," he added.

Heat and rain extremes under three projections -- a sharp reduction in carbon emissions, a modest one, and current "business-as-usual" levels -- were reviewed in the

report.

All three scenarios see a roughly similar trajectory of increased extremes up to mid-century.

But towards the end of the century the pathways diverge dramatically, with far higher and more frequent heatwaves and rainfall peaks in the worst-case scenario of a world saturated with greenhouse gases.

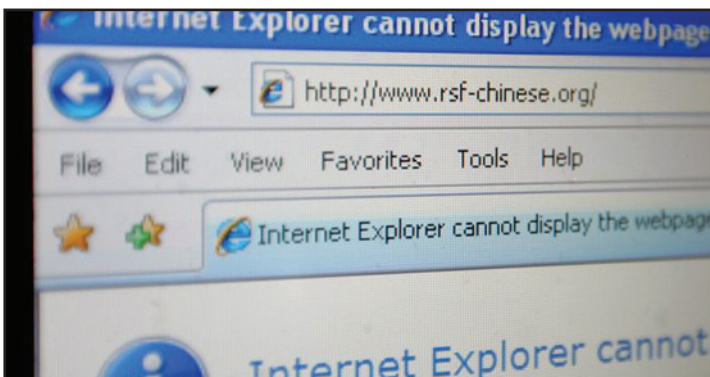
For the high-emission scenario -- the path the world is on now -- one-in-20-year heat peaks would occur every five years by about 2050, and every year or two by the end of the century. Precipitation extremes increase in a similar fashion, the report showed.

Qin Dahe, also an IPCC co-chair, said the panel was likewise "more confident" that climate change is boosting glacier retreat, a major concern for nations in Asia and South America dependent on glaciers for water.

But for other extreme weather events such as cyclones, scientists are still unable to pin down the impact of climate change, due to lack of data and the "inherent variability and variations in the climate system," Stocker said.

Some studies have suggested that warmer air and sea surface temperatures combined with greater moisture in the air will intensify tropical storms.

Unprecedented hack attacks on Norwegian firms



OSLO (AFP) - The biggest wave of hacking and espionage attacks in Norway's history has hit key defence and energy companies, the National Security Agency (NSM) said Friday.

At least 10 companies have over the past year fallen victim to hackers in a string of attacks believed to be the work of one group, the NSM said in a statement.

"We have to suppose that the actual number (of victims) is much higher, but that many

(companies) have not been in contact" with authorities, the agency said.

The security agency said it was difficult to track down the perpetrators, who used servers based abroad for their attacks, refusing to point fingers at any suspects.

"This is the first time that a hacking campaign of this magnitude has been detected in Norway," NSM spokesman Kjetil Berg Veire told AFP.

The hackers in each case tried to gain access to the cor-

porate network by sending seemingly legitimate emails to specific people, along with a well-concealed virus handing them remote access to the computer in question, according to the agency.

But each attack was "tailored" for the specific company, making it possible to escape detection by anti-virus programmes, it said.

The main targets of the attacks were companies in the oil, gas and overall energy sector, as well as in defence.

The names of the targeted companies were not divulged.

The attacks had allowed the hackers to gain access to documents, industrial charts, usernames and passwords.

A US intelligence report released earlier this month branded the Chinese the world's "most active and persistent perpetrators" of economic espionage.

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ACROSS

1. "The Namesake" director Nair
5. Latin hymn word
9. Tea to alleviate soroche
13. Cerussite and anglesite
14. Entangle
15. Require aspirin
16. Big, dumb guys
17. Brazilian palm
18. Blender noise
19. Bunt maneuver
22. "Bulldog, bulldog, rah..." chanter
23. Grabs the tab
24. Spine-tingling
26. Shifting

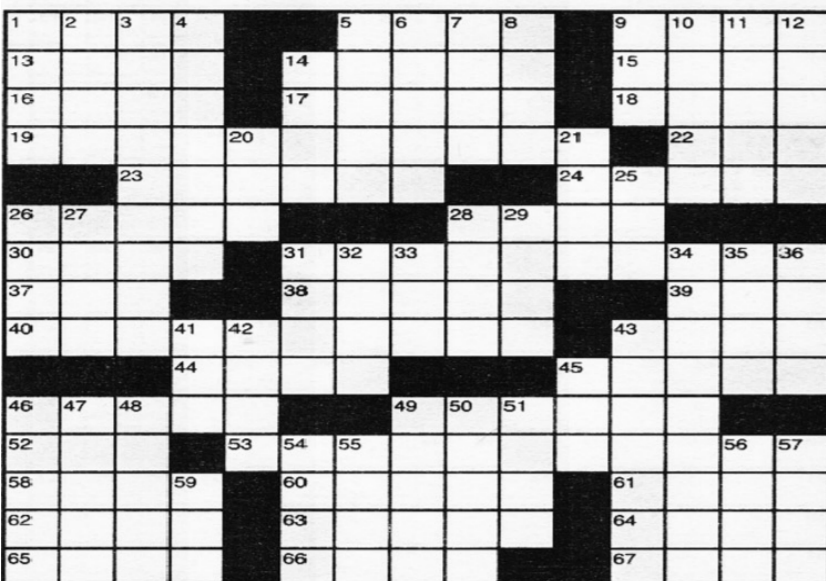
28. lithosphere section
30. Rustic retreats
31. Bull Run victors
37. Impromptu jazz performance
38. Member of a conger congregation
39. Friends: Fr. Parisian street
40. Sportswriters' stations
43. Gaelic tongue
44. Mystery writer Joan
45. Regard with curled lip
46. Sacred song
49. Sound of a kitty
52. Magda's sister
53. Where rackets operate

58. Look for fingerprints
60. Kohl's 1990 coup
61. Cerulean
62. Lady Bird's middle name
63. Cutting tools
64. Falls behind
65. One of the F.F.V.
66. One with accomplishments
67. Former, formerly

DOWN

1. Lows
2. Where the Tigris meets the Euphrates
3. Falsifiable
4. Claims
5. Map blow-up
6. Files
7. Landlocked

8. "Poor Relations" author
9. Taunt, to a scarecrow
10. Dark yellow
11. dog
12. Osprey's refuge
14. Strip of contention
20. Bigfoot's shoe width?
21. Yearnings
25. Pluralizing letter
26. Trial run
27. Lecher's look
28. Soothsayer's phrase
29. Loch near Urquhart Castle
31. Sparring maneuvers
32. Israeli novelist Oz
33. Shuffle
34. Guerrilla, e.g.
35. English river
36. At no time, to a bard
41. Haggard heroine
42. Groups
43. Dignify
45. Command to a dog
46. Award
47. Immature seed
48. Aesthetic bent
49. Aztec staple
50. Volatile compound
51. Philosophical torments
54. Dorm locale, perhaps
55. Destroy
56. Canine snuggling spots
57. Examination
59. Working grad students



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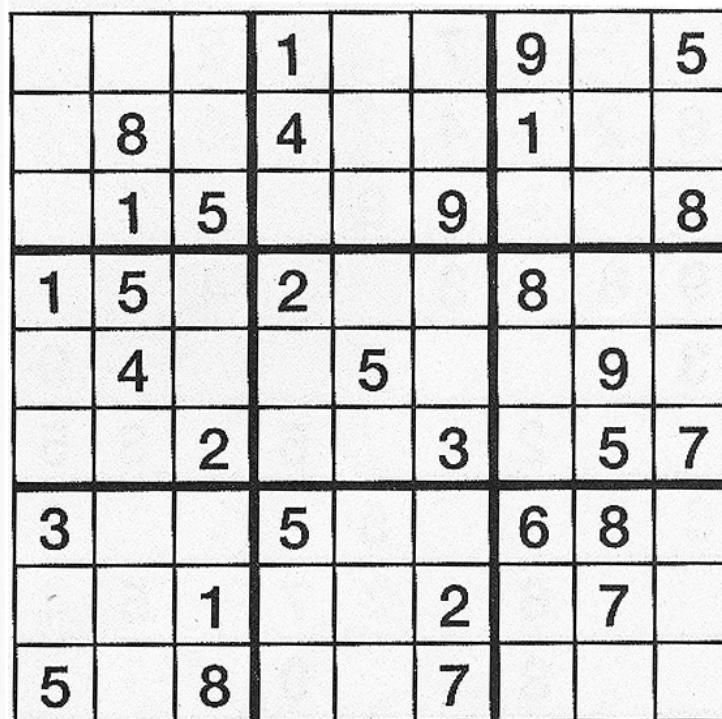
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

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6	2	9	7	8	3	1	9	4
2	8	9	1	4	9	6	2	8
7	9	4	8	1	8	7	6	9
1	6	7	9	9	2	8	4	8
9	8	8	4	6	7	2	9	1
8	4	2	6	8	9	9	1	2
8	2	1	9	2	4	9	8	6
9	9	6	8	7	1	4	8	2

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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Finance

Greek budget promises to slash deficit

ATHENS, Greece (AFP) - Greece promised to slash its deficit in a 2012 budget unveiled yesterday thanks to a planned debt deal with banks, but warned of a deeper than expected recession next year as austerity measures bite.

The blueprint was published as auditors from the European Union, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund discussed releasing desperately needed foreign loans with the new unity government in Athens.

The budget forecast that Greece's public deficit would drop to 5.4 percent of gross do-

mestic product (GDP) in 2012 from 9.0 percent this year, an ambitious target given the previous forecast for next year of 6.8 percent.

The coalition government led by former ECB deputy chief Lucas Papademos also estimated that the economy would shrink next year by 2.8 percent, a deeper contraction than the 2.5 percent previously forecast. Nevertheless, that would represent an improvement from the expected 5.5 percent contraction in 2011, the third year of recession.

Finance Minister Evangelos Venizelos said he hoped lawmakers would approve the

budget before an EU summit on December 9, an indication of the cabinet's determination to appease its creditors as bankruptcy looms.

He also said no new austerity measures were needed beyond those agreed by the previous government -- but those deeply unpopular reforms, including slashing the public sector and overhauling the tax system, still had to be forced through.

EU staff threaten strike action over belt-tightening

BRUSSELS (AFP) - Yesterday, EU staff unions threatened strike action next week to protest belt-tightening measures as the bloc goes on an austerity diet.

A statement from an "Inter-institutional Joint Front" representing the 55,000 staff across the European institutions has called an assembly on Tuesday following a breakdown in conciliation talks with the European Commission.

European staff wages vary widely: from 2,650 euros (\$3,580) per month before tax and social welfare payments, to 23,000 euros gross for each of the 27 national EU commissioners.

Staff are concerned by a bid to overhaul staff rules and by a letter signed by 17 of the 27 European Union states that criticises automatic wage adjustments and links the possibility of wage hikes to the economic situation.

The 17 austerity-driven nations also say an increase in retirement age from 63 to 65 is not sufficient.

Staff unions on the other hand criticise working conditions on their Facebook page.



Asunción : Municipal civil servants holding a hunger strike since Tuesday, lie on broken glass as a way to intensify their protest against certain articles of the new Municipal Organic Law that they argue would translate in mass lay-offs, in front of the Palace of Justice in Asuncion yesterday. The demonstrators are opposed to the articles that say that only 60 percent of the municipalities' budget would be assigned to salaries. (AFP PHOTO)

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Canada	CAD	1.720	1.740	1.760
Britain	GBP	2.750	2.800	2.860
Switzerland	CHF	1.9520	1.9592	1.9672
Netherlands	EUR	2.3961	2.4180	2.4423
Sweden	SEK	0.2541	0.2613	0.2693
Denmark	DKK	0.3153	0.3225	0.3305
Norway	NOK	0.2996	0.3068	0.3148
Japan	JPY	230.26	232.36	234.70
(per 10,000)				
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US debt panel groping for deal as deadline looms

WASHINGTON (AFP) - A US Congress "supercommittee" tasked with finding \$1.2 trillion in deficit reduction planned to meet through the weekend if necessary to find an elusive deal, one of its co-chairs said yesterday.

"We are painfully, painfully aware of the deadline that is staring us in the face," Republican Representative Jeb Hensarling told reporters as the panel groped for a compromise by Wednesday as required under the law that created it.

Hensarling said the committee would meet through the weekend if necessary to "try to find sufficient common ground" on a solution to "simultaneously address both our nation's jobs crisis and the debt crisis."

The committee has to November 23 to lay out a plan for \$1.2 trillion in deficit reduction over 10 years, after which the full Congress has until December 23 to approve the proposal in a fast-tracked legislative process.

Failure to enact the blueprint by mid-January would trigger draconian cuts, come January 2013, to the US social safety net and military spending to make up the difference between the sought-for savings and any final deal.

The committee, created in an August deal on raising the



US debt limit, has locked up over Republican refusals of Democratic calls to raise taxes on the very wealthy in return for cuts to cherished social safety net programs.

Democrats have reportedly offered reductions in so-called "entitlement" health care programs for the poor and elderly as well as the Social Security pension plan dear to their core voters but insisted the rich must pay more.

Republicans have warned that will cripple job-creating investment at a time when the brittle US economy labors under stubbornly high unemployment of more than nine percent.

And they have reportedly countered with cuts to the safety net while pushing tax changes they say will raise \$250 billion over 10 years while seeing rates on the wealthiest earners drop -- a move Democrats have rejected.

Regis Philbin says farewell to "Live!" after 28 years



Regis Philbin gave his final farewell on Friday morning as the talk show host said his goodbye to friends, family and fans. The talk show host has been getting tributes all week, but this was the final goodbye and the last time the audience would see him on Live with Regis and Kelly.

The final show featured a several video clips and montages, including many of guests and comedians, from Dana Carvey to Barney the Dinosaur imitating Philbin's signature syncopated and enthusiastic.

Justin Timberlake, Selena Gomez, Emma Stone and Anne Hathaway all thanked Regis Philbin for welcoming

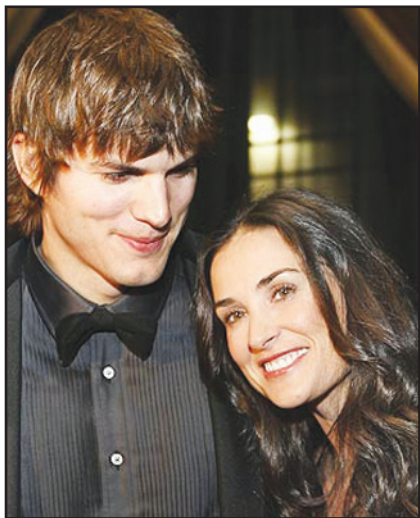
them on his show through the years.

Co-host Kelly Ripa became emotional when she said "I've had the privilege of walking 43 steps with you from my dressing room to this studio floor five days a week for the past eleven years."

"I'll always remember spending these mornings with all of you," was Philbin's (80) final words to viewers.

Mayor Bloomberg presented Philbin with a key to the city, and suggested new jobs for Philbin including cabbie, New York Yankee, underwear model and New York mayor, with images of the retiring TV host digitally inserted into appropriate photos.

Hollywood power couple Moore, Kutcher split



LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Actress Demi Moore announced "with great sadness" the end of her high-profile marriage to Ashton Kutcher, after his reported infidelity with a woman less than half her age.

The confirmation comes after months of media reports about problems between the Hollywood power couple, who married in 2005 when she was 42 and he was 27. She had earlier been married to actor Bruce Willis for 13

years. "As a woman, a mother and a wife there are certain values and vows that I hold sacred, and it is in this spirit that I have chosen to move forward with my life," the 49-year-old said in a statement issued through her publicist.

Thirty-three-year-old Kutcher, who recently took over from troubled star Charlie Sheen in the hit TV series "Two and a Half Men," tweeted a poignant message minutes after Moore's announcement.

"I will forever cherish the time I spent with Demi. Marriage is one of the most difficult things in the world and unfortunately sometimes they fail. Love and Light, AK," he wrote.

Rumors of trouble in the marriage flared in recent weeks after Kutcher reportedly had unprotected sex with a 22-year-old woman during a trip with friends to San Diego.



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Natalie Wood Death Case Re-Opened



WASHINGTON (AFP) - The captain of the yacht on which Natalie Wood was last seen alive 30 years ago accused her husband Robert Wagner on Friday of some responsibility in her death because he prevented a search that could have saved the Hollywood icon.

The death of the "Rebel Without a Cause" and "West Side Story" star at age 43 re-

mains one of the enduring Hollywood mysteries, and Los Angeles police announced they were re-opening a homicide investigation into the case. Her death was at the time ruled an accidental drowning.

Dennis Davern, former captain of the Splendour, the yacht that Wood and Wagner were on along with actor Christopher Walken on the night of Wood's death, said police were re-opening the investigation because of information he had about the case.

"I've been trying to tell information about this for many, many years, and there wasn't really anyone listening until now," Davern told NBC's "Today" show.

Davern co-wrote a book with reporter Marti Rulli in which they described a bitter argument between Wood and Wagner on November 28, 1981. Wood disappeared later that

night, and Davern said Wagner did not conduct an appropriate search.

Asked if Wagner did not do everything he should have done after his wife went missing, Davern said: "Exactly."

"It was to be kept a low-profile investigation," Davern told NBC.

"It was a matter of 'we're not going to look too hard, we're not going to turn on the search light, we're not going to notify anybody right at the moment.'"

And when asked whether he thought Wagner was responsible for Wood's death, Davern said: "Yes I would say so, yes" -- although he would not say exactly how.

Wood was found drowned about a mile away from the yacht. Police reports said she was wearing a nightgown, socks and a down jacket, and had multiple bruises on her body and arms and an abrasion on her left cheek.

Rulli, whose book with Davern, "Goodbye Natalie, Goodbye Splendour," was published in 2009, told NBC that the captain "overheard the arguing" on the night of Wood's death.

"He did make an attempt to stop it, was told to go away by Robert Wagner, and minutes later Natalie was missing," she said. "Dennis wanted to do everything, make a phone call, turn on the search light -- his instincts told him something was terribly wrong -- and Robert Wagner asked him not to."

Davern agreed with Rulli's description, but seemed to agonize over his own role in the tragedy.

"All I can say is, I made some terrible decisions, mistakes, and it's just going to have to be left up to the investigators."

Jolie to play 'female Lawrence of Arabia'

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Angelina Jolie is set to play a British woman who helped map out the modern Middle East including Iraq in the early 20th century, the Hollywood Reporter said Friday.

The Oscar-winning actress is attached to play Gertrude Bell, described as the female Lawrence of Arabia for her pioneering work in establishing the framework for what would become Jordan and Iraq.

The project is still in development by British director Ridley Scott's Scott Free Productions, said the Reporter, noting that Jolie has a history of playing strong female characters.

Bell was passionate about archeology and languages, spoke several languages including Arabic and Persian, and wrote about her extensive travels in a number of books, including "Persian Pictures," and "Syria: The Desert and the Sown."

During World War I, Bell, who won widespread admiration among Arabs, worked as a British spy and helped to dismantle the Ottoman Empire and to found Iraq, said the report.

The project's screenplay is being written by Jeffrey Caine, who wrote the script for 2005's "The Constant Gardener," it said.

Parents Guide to Skin Protection



It's important to protect your children's skin from the damaging effects of the sun. No matter what they're doing or what time of year it is, if they are outdoors, they need to be protected.

Aruba is one of the places in the world where the sun is the strongest. Located only 12.5 degrees north of the equator, the sun shines with maximum strength and penetrates the atmosphere with a maximum amount of UV rays. What most people don't know on water and sand, which means that even in the shade you need protection.

Protecting the skin from the sun during childhood and adolescence is important in reducing cancer risks later in life. By building safe sun habits into your family's daily routine, you will make your children understand and get used to being protected against the sun and they will become more aware of the harmful effects it can have to their skin. Parents should take the lead by giving the good example; children will respond better when they see their parents protecting their skin as well.

screen that is not waterproof.

- Use sunscreen even on hazy or overcast days.
- Keep an extra bottle of sunscreen in the car.
- Pack a bottle of sunscreen in your child's bag.
- Use Sunglasses that block UV rays and protect the eyes and the surrounding tender skin.



Important recommendations:

•Wear protective clothing when out in the sun. Choose shirts and slacks made of tightly woven fabrics that you can't see through when held up to light.

•Cover up with Hats. Choose hats that shade your child's face, neck and ears.

•Apply Sunscreen every day on skin that is not protected by clothing or a hat. Choose a sunscreen with a high Sun Protection Factor (SPF) such as Aruba Aloe's Waterproof SPF 30 sunscreen for maximum protection. For babies and children under 2 years old, make sure to use a special sunscreen that gives extra protection for the sensitive skin such as "Waterproof Babies SPF 30" from Aruba Aloe. Remember to reapply after swimming, sweating or toweling dry if you use a sun-

•Play in the Shade. The sun's rays are generally strongest from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. If your children are outdoors, make sure their skin is protected.

•Teach your children the shadow rule. When outside, if your shadow is shorter than you are, it means that the sun is high in the sky and the UV rays are most intense.

•Protect children younger than 6 months of age with clothing and keep them in the shade.

For more advice on how to best protect your and your children's skin against the sun, please call Aruba Aloe: 588-3222 or visit the website www.ArubaAloe.com

Aruba Aloe products are available at most hotels, supermarkets, pharmacies and the Aruba Aloe Stores.

A must see while on Aruba!

The Aruba Ostrich Farm

Welcome to an activity at Aruba you can't miss! When you think of Aruba, you probably think sea, sun and beach. But Aruba has more to offer than that, there're different sort of activities you can do. A must see when you are at Aruba, is the Aruba Ostrich Farm.

Although Africa is the native land of the ostrich, this intriguing bird finds a perfect home in Aruba's rugged landscape. The Aruba Ostrich Farm welcomes you to come and meet its 80-count flock of the largest living species in the world.

Visitors are encouraged to partake in a guided tour of the farm, inhabited by both ostriches and their flightless Australian relatives, emus. The tour provides the opportunity to learn about the natural behavior and survival instincts of these amazing creatures through detailed information as well as personal encounters with the birds.

Before or after the tour, guests are welcome to peruse the African Art Shop, chock-full of authentic goods from South Africa. Or simply relax in the shade of the sprawling Savanna Lodge Bar & Restaurant and sample a delicious ostrich meat dish. Enjoy the panoramic views of the island's northern coast while sipping on a fruity shake or frosty beer from the bar.

The Aruba Ostrich Farm is dedicated to providing a memorable and unique experience for all guests. It's one



of the things you have to do when you are at Aruba.

The ostrich farm is located along the road leading to the Natural Bridge (Matividiri

57). Opening hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with tour ever half hour. Kitchen opening hours are from 10:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m.

Mrs. Linda Pieta honored as Goodwill Ambassador of Aruba



Recently, Mrs. Linda Pieta was honored as Goodwill Ambassador of Aruba. This wonderful lady has been coming to Aruba for 20 consecutive years and is a loyal member of the Riu Palace Aruba Resort. Mrs. Pieta loves the weather, beaches, the people of Aruba, our culture and night life. During a small ceremony, a handsome certificate was presented to her as a token of appreciation by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority in presence of Ms. Ruella Arends from the Riu Palace Aruba Resort.

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GROUP SALES: (297) 561-1090

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Beach Tennis Tournament...

continued from page 16



Advanced Men:

1. Dennis Martinez (Aruba)
2. Joao Paulo Nunan (Brazil)

Advanced Women:

1. Fanny Rollet (France)
2. Noortje Derksen (Aruba)

Masters (50 +)

1. Marcos Sa (Brazil)
2. Alex Lovera (Aruba)

Single finals for the pro categories are Monday November 21 on the square in The Village (Mall)

Pro Women Final at 6pm:

Flavia Muniz (Brazil) - Julie Labrit (France)

Pro Men Final at 7pm:

Luca Meliconi (Italy) - Nr. 2 ranking in the ITF Beach Tennis ranking Vs.

Alessandro Calbucci (Italy) - Nr. 1 ranking in the ITF Beach Tennis ranking

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your
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US sport officials to examine Penn State

STATE COLLEGE (AFP) - The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the governing body for US inter-collegiate sports, has said it will examine the child sex abuse scandal at Penn State University.

Former Penn State assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky has been charged with 40 counts of sexual abuse involving eight boys and acts allegedly taking place as long ago as 1994, according to a grand jury report.

The scandal led to the firing of legendary coach Joe Paterno and three other university officials. Sandusky has maintained his innocence, saying that he did shower with young boys but there was nothing sexual in his actions.

The NCAA probe will focus upon how university officials handled information in relation to the scandal, looking into why police were not called upon much earlier to investigate matters.



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NFL: Rested Chargers battle red-hot Bears

CHICAGO (AFP) - The Chicago Bears seek to continue their playoff push when they open a stretch of four straight games against American Conference opponents, starting with San Diego Sunday at Soldier Field.

In a battle between two clubs heading in the opposite directions, the Bears face a Chargers team that has lost four straight games but will have the luxury of having had 10 days of rest.

The Chargers offence is struggling and having trouble protecting the ball. Quarterback Philip Rivers leads the league in interceptions so he will have to get into a rhythm early because the Bears are



DENVER- Eric Decker (notes) #87 of the Denver Broncos returns punt in the first half against the New York Jets at Invesco Field at Mile High on November 17, 2011 in Denver, Colorado.

one of the best pass-rushing teams in the league.

"We're going to need to get every guy healthy we can, and we're going to need to play better than we did in our last game," San Diego coach Norv Turner said.

Chicago's stingy defence is forcing turnovers and coming up with big stops.

Once upon a time their playoff hopes seemed slim. On October 10, they lost 24-13 to Detroit, falling to 2-3 and three games out of first place in the NFC North. But the Bears haven't lost since.

"We're getting better," linebacker Brian Urlacher said. "No doubt about that. We're not done yet. We've still got a long way to go. But we're going the right direction."

Chicago's defence was at its best last weekend, forcing six turnovers and keeping Detroit out of the end zone until five minutes remained.

"It's about execution and that's what the guys are buying into," coach Lovie Smith said. "We've been seeing progress. We're climbing up the standings."

San Diego allowed a sea-

son-high six sacks in their last game as they slipped one game back of the first-place Oakland Raiders in their division.

"The bottom line is we've lost four games in a row, and we've got to win a football game," said Philip Rivers, the league leader with 15 interceptions and 19 turnovers.

In another key matchup, the Baltimore Ravens host the Cincinnati Bengals.

Cincinnati's rookie quarterback Andy Dalton has been superb in his first nine games, but he faces a new challenge against the Ravens' defence, which ranks first in total yards allowed.

Baltimore have already beaten the only two AFC teams with better records than theirs. But what's frustrating for the coaching staff is they seem to let down against the weaker opponents.

That class no longer includes the Bengals, who will try to keep the host Ravens reeling from their latest shocking loss last Sunday.

Dallas look to garner a division win and show off their newfound running game when they face struggling Washington.

Rookie runningback DeMarco Murray has taken the heat off quarterback Tony Romo this season. And Murray might get more help Sunday because Dallas is going to have their top rusher from last year, Felix Jones, return to the lineup.

But they may not need him as Murray has already helped turn the season around for Dallas who are seeking their third-straight victory.

Dallas has moved within one game of the NFC-East leading New York Giants and a win would put them solidly in the hunt for a wild-card berth.

In other games it is Buffalo at Miami, Jacksonville at Cleveland, Tampa Bay at Green Bay, Carolina at Detroit, Oakland at Minnesota, Seattle at St. Louis, Arizona at San Francisco, Tennessee at Atlanta and Philadelphia at New York Giants. On Monday night, Kansas City visit New England.

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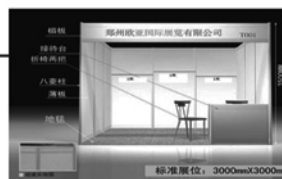
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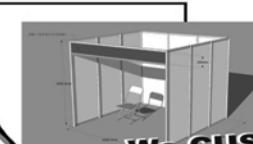
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In the Aruba International Beach Tennis Event at MooMba



Dennis Martinez (Aruba) wins single title Advanced Men over Brazil:

If there would have been a prize for the most thrilling

match last Thursday at MooMba Beach, it would undoubtedly have gone to the

late-night Dennis Martinez (Aruba) - Joao Paulo Nunan (Brazil) match. As many players and spectators started to pack it in for the evening, a total change in that match caused everyone to linger, watch and watch some more. At 1-6 it seemed that Joao Paulo would easily win the Advanced Men's final, but Aruba's ace-in-the-hole Dennis came back with a vengeance, taking the match to a tie-break at midnight. Cheered on by fellow Arubans, Dennis proceeded to win the tie-break and the song 'We are the Champions', the Wave and much merry-making was the result. The festivities went on until after 2 am!

For the rest Aruba had to bow to their opponents: Noortje Derksen for Fanny Rollet of France in the Advanced Women Category and a dedicated Alex Lovera to Marcos Sa of Brazil in the 50+ Masters. The Pro Women and Men have their finals postponed to the awards night on Monday at The Village. There Flavia Muniz (Brazil) and Julie Labrit of France will battle it out for the Ladies' Title and prize money. The Men's Single will be between awesome Alessandro Calbucci from

Italy, currently ranked number one in the ITF Beach Tennis Ranking and his countryman Luca Meliconi, ranked number 2 in the ITF ranking.

The Nations Cup, held on Friday, once again saw some spectacular beach tennis. Participating countries were USA, Venezuela, Italy, Brazil, St. Martin/Martinique and Aruba.

For the upcoming weekend we can only suggest you come to MooMba Beach: you won't believe your eyes! The level of play is incredibly high and entertaining; there is lots of music, stunning beach wear to admire on lean, tight bods and much more. The sport of Beach Tennis is made for Aruba, where fun, sun and sea are combined with sand and sweat to make it complete. Main sponsors of the Aruba International Beach Tennis Event are Amstel Bright, Alno Kitchen, Aruba Aloe and Avis Car Rental.

The Singles results are:

Fun/Intermediate Men:

1. Christoph LeRasle (St. Martin)
2. Juan Joseph (St. Martin)

Fun/Intermediate Women:

1. Cecile Pugeol (France)
2. Mariela Ganem (V'zla)

continues on page 14



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